

CLEAN COPY OF THE CLAIMS

1. A medical instrument comprising at least one memory metal tube programmed for an effect selected from the group of effects consisting of memory effect and superelasticity and having in at least one section thereof a plurality of slots defining a retrieval basket such that the slotted retrieval basket section is capable of expansion and contraction to surrounding contact, capture and retrieve at least one particle.

7. A medical instrument comprising at least one memory metal tube programmed for an effect selected from the group of effects consisting of memory effect and superelasticity and having in at least one section thereof a plurality of slots such that the slotted section is capable of expansion and contraction;

further comprising a delivery tube that surrounds at least the slotted section of the memory metal tube during delivery and which is partially removed from surrounding the slotted section of the memory metal tube by a relative longitudinal movement between the respective tubes;

wherein said memory metal tube has a distal end and wherein the slots in the memory metal tube extend to the distal end of the tube and have been programmed to change into inwardly extending bending hooks to define an internal gripper upon delivery from the delivery tube.